

MONKEYS MINING GOLD.

A New Englander Who Uses the Queer Little Animals in a South Carolina Mine.

Doing Their Work More Thoroughly Than Men and Never Dishonest.

The Wisdom, Heroism, Laziness and Other Qualities of Seven Very Remarkable Dogs.

In the diamond mines of Africa, says the Philadelphia Press, monkeys are said to be very valuable aids in hunting the precious stones. Many stories have been told and written of the usefulness of these clever, sharp-eyed little animals. Africa has been for centuries the stronghold of the marvelous, and doubtless most of those who have read anecdotes about monkeys in the mines have known what to think of them. But I have a story about mines and monkeys that is true, can be verified, and is given without varnish. We shall not go beyond our own country.

Some time ago a friend told me that monkeys were employed in the gold diggings of South Carolina. He went for me a very interesting account of their labors and of their value as laborers. My thoughts were busy the while with another animal—the fish. But since then I have come face to face with the man who employs them, and have heard from his own lips the story of these strange workers. He is the proprietor of a gold mine in the interior of the Palmetto state, and interested with him in digging the gold-bearing quartz are a number of eastern capitalists, who have themselves witnessed the ingenuity of their monkey workmen.

Capt. E. Metz, who was born in Yankee-land, tells the story of the queer little animals who work for him in the mines. He is a typical New Englander from Vermont, and served in the Union army during the rebellion, and settled in the south after the war. His mines are situated near Chesterfield, in South Carolina, about twenty miles off the railroad. He has been working them at a profit for a number of years, and new and improved machinery is constantly making them more valuable. As I saw him he was on his way to Chicago to purchase another new mill to increase the facilities for his gold-digging operations.

"I have twenty-four monkeys," said he, "employed about my mines. They do the work of seven able-bodied men, and it is no reflection upon the human laborer to say that they do a class of work a man cannot do as well. In many instances they lend valuable aid where a man would be useless. They gather up the small pieces of quartz that would be passed unnoticed by the workmen, and pile them up in little heaps that can be easily gathered up in a shovel and thrown into the mill. They are exceedingly adept at catching the little particles, and their sharp eyes never escape the very things that the human eye would pass over."

"How did you first come to employ them?"

"When I went to digging gold I had two monkeys that were exceedingly interesting pets. They were constantly following me about the mines, and one day I noticed that they were busily engaged in gathering up little bits of quartz and arranging them in piles. They seemed to enjoy the labor very much, and would go to the mines every morning and work there during the day. It did not take me long to catch on to their value as laborers, for at that time our workmen, which are mostly colored, were unskilled, and oftentimes almost useless. My two pets had not worked very long before I decided to procure more. So I immediately imported a number, and now have two dozen working daily in and about the mines. It is exceedingly interesting to watch my two pet monkeys teach the new ones how to work, and stranger still to see how readily the new comers take to it."

"Strange to say, they control themselves. They work as they please, sometimes going down into the mines when they have cleaned up the debris on the outside. They live and work together without quarrel, any more than men do. They are quite methodical in their habits and go to work and quit like true workmen. They need some care and I have a colored man who superintends them. He feeds them and looks well after their comfort. They have their meals regularly and eat much the same character of food as human beings do. Cornbread is a great favorite with them. They clean up about the mine, follow the wheelbarrows and carts in mining and pick up everything that falls off along the way. No one who has not seen them can even imagine the wonderful intelligence they display and the neatness and cleanliness with which they perform their work. Nothing escapes them. Every little particle is picked up and cared for. They go down into the mines and come out as they please. They are friendly with the workmen employed there, but are exceedingly shy with strangers. They are most excellent detectives, and no workman can get on good enough terms with them to carry away a piece of quartz. The men frequently attempt it just for sport, to see the monkeys get after them and chatter until they put down whatever they may have in their hands. It is strange to see how they will discriminate between the tools used by the workmen and a piece of quartz. They only keep their eye on and make a fuss about what they must recognize as my property. I would not set one of them, because I do not know how their place could be supplied. Certainly not with human beings."

Seven Remarkable Dogs.

A dog at Greenwood Lake is 21 years old and has killed in his life over sixty rattlesnakes. He has been bitten by them four times and still lives.

A very lazy dog lives at Oakland, Cal. He likes to lie all day in the shade of a small tree in his master's yard. He has a sack which he always carries to the spot to rest upon. As the shade shifts its position he picks up the sack and carries it without the reach of the sun's rays.

It was a wise and human dog that saved two men's lives in Illinois recently. He aroused his master, who after persistent efforts got him to follow to the railroad track where he found two men lying across the main track under their cart and horse, which had been overturned. Their lives were finally saved by stopping the train.

A very smart dog lives in Bowling Green, Ky. The other morning a horse was left standing hitched to a buggy, and while its owner was in the distillery, the animal took flight and ran away. He was going at breakneck speed, when the dog saw him, jumped the fence, headed the horse, grabbed the reins in his mouth and held him tight and fast until the owner of the mare came up and relieved him.

A Philadelphia dog wears a costly collar as a reminder of his presence of mind. Mr. Green put his little son to bed early one night. Two hours later she heard the subdued growling of her dog coming from the hallway. Rushing to the scene she saw what held her spellbound. About the center of the long flight of stairs leading from the

sleeping apartment was the boy, crying as if his heart was breaking. He was hanging over the steps in a perilous position, with his head downward, and the dog prevented him falling further by clutching his little dress between its teeth. The dog was growling at a rapid rate as if to attract attention, and seemed to fully realize the dangerous situation. The child had jumped out of bed and was going down stairs headlong when the dog rushed to his rescue and saved him by catching hold of the dress. As soon as the rescue was made the dog kissed his face and showed unbounded joy. A gang of men were at work near Johnstown, about the 1st of August, removing debris. Soon they came upon a pile of logs in the shape of a cone, at least a dozen feet high. The logs were in such a symmetrical shape that it looked as though they were put together by human hands. The cone was hollow, and as the men proceeded with their work they detected a small animal close at hand. Log after log was removed, when, to their amazement, they beheld a mastiff dog. The animal wagged his tail and whined when he saw the men, and seemed gladdened at the prospect of being liberated from his prison. In another portion of the cone-shaped cell was the carcass of a cow. By some freak of the rushing waters the dog and cow were caught in this pen June 2, the cow being crushed in the jaws of logs. The canine was sleek and fat when liberated, and looked none the worse for his two months' imprisonment.

Bob, a red setter, owned by Charles W. Cooley, of Paradise township, Pa., keeps guard over the barnyard fowl, follows the clucking mother hens and their broods from one place to another, and lies low for henhawks. Last summer Bob did nothing of the kind, but late in May he saw an enormous henhawk swoop down and carry off a squawking chicken. Bob saw the hawk taken upon himself the task of watching over all the feathered stock on the premises. Mr. Cooley wasn't aware of Bob's self-imposed duties until one afternoon in June, when he heard the rooster and the hens cackling and squawking back of the barn. He saw a red streak sailing over the fence like a flash, and before he could get to where the frightened fowls were Bob came bounding round the corner of the barn with a big henhawk by the neck. The hawk was flapping its wings like sixty, but Bob soon choked it to death, not appearing to mind the beating he received from the bird's large wings. Mr. Cooley found a wounded chicken in the yard, and the indications were that Bob had pounced upon the hawk just at the instant that the big bird grabbed the chicken. After that Mr. Cooley took more notice of the dog's actions, and he soon found that Bob had his eyes out for hawks at all hours of the day. He never barks when he goes for a hawk, and he has shaken the life out of three since June 1.

The use of calomel for derangements of the liver has ruined many a fine constitution. Those who, for similar troubles, have tried Ayer's Pills testify to their efficiency in thoroughly remedying the malady, without injury to the system.

Impurities of the blood often cause great annoyance at this season. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood, and cures all such affections.

There was a terrible epidemic of dysentery and bloody flux in Pope county, Illinois, last summer. As many as five deaths occurred in one day. Messrs. Walter Brothers, of Waltersburg, sold over 380 bottles of Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy during this epidemic, and say they never heard of its failing in any case when the directions were followed. It was the only medicine used that did cure the worst cases. Many persons were cured by it after the doctors had given them up. Twenty-five and 50-cent bottles for sale by H. M. Parthen & Co.

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Harvest Excursion Rates from Missouri River Points to Montana.

The Union Pacific railway company will sell harvest excursion tickets from Council Bluffs, Omaha, St. Joseph, Leavenworth and Kansas City to Montana points on the following dates at one fare for the round trip, \$48.50: Aug. 6 and 20, Sept. 10 and 24, and Oct. 8; extreme limit thirty days from date of sale; stop-over privileges allowed returning.

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LAND NOTICES.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION.

LAND OFFICE AT HELENA, MONT., September 30, 1889.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FOLLOWING named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before register and receiver of Helena, Mont., on November 2, 1889, viz: Cyrus Clapp, who made D. S. No. 2694. C. E. 2035 for the sw¹/₄, nw¹/₄ and nw¹/₄, sec. 13 and 14 and 15 sec. 14, tp. 17 n. r. 1 w.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Edwin E. James, of Chestnut, Mont.; Charles M. Spaulding, of St. Clair, Mont.; Thomas L. Gorham, of St. Clair, Mont.; John A. Harris, of Chestnut, Mont.

S. W. LANGHORNE, Register.

First publication Oct. 1, 1889.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, HELENA, MONT., Sept. 18, 1889.
Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the register and receiver at Helena, Mont., on Oct. 15, 1889, viz: Ed W. McNeal on homestead entry No. 5789, for the SE¹/₄, NE¹/₄, N. E. SE¹/₄ and SW¹/₄, sec. 16, T. 17 N., R. 3 W.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Robert S. Price, William A. Ramsey, Janis G. Sanders, of Helena, Mont.; Edwin M. Culver, of Jefferson, City, Mont.

S. W. LANGHORNE, Register.

First publication Sept. 20.

A. H. NELSON, Attorney for contestant.

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